

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
COMCAST CABLE FRANCHISE RENEWAL PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2012
7:00P.M.**

1. OPENING

1.1.1 Call to Order

Councilmember Yeargin called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

1.1.2 Roll Call

Present: Eugene Grant (ABSENT), Councilmember Darrell Hardy, Councilmember Johnie Higgs, Sr., Councilmember Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gerald R. Raynor, Sr. (ABSENT), Councilmember Elenora Simms, Councilmember Aretha Stephenson (ABSENT), Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Robert Ashton, City Treasurer, Vincent Jones, City Administrator, Dashaun Lanham, City Clerk

2. MEETING TOPICS

2.1. Comcast Franchise Renewal –

- Council President Porter welcomed the City of Seat Pleasant residents to the Public Hearing to solicit public input. He stated the franchise agreement with Comcast will expire in 2013, and the City is required to perform a community needs assessment to determine the future needs for the next franchise period.
- He stated that when looking forward and thinking of future needs, we must remember that cable television is no longer just video programming, but rather voice, and data services. The federal law prohibits the City from regulating the rates charged or the programming services and packages offered by Comcast.
- We are looking for your input on future needs and services as well as specific customer service categories to be addressed in a future cable franchise agreement.
- This meeting is not intended to focus on individuals complaints about Comcast, but to focus on areas that need improvement. If you have an unresolved problem with Comcast service, please call the 1-800-266-2278 office to file a complaint.

3. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

- Vincent Jones, City Administrator stated that Seat Pleasant doesn't have a cable channel. He said the last census count provides a higher level of seniors. He stated one of the ways to get information out is to have a channel.
- He stated he's not recommending to televise the meetings. He said it is eleven municipalities around us with a channel. He said there is no cost for the channel, but we may experience a cost for the equipment.
- The channel will only be on Comcast and we will need to check with Verizon for their news channel.
- We will need to create a policy, which will be to convey information to the public.
- Mr. Wright wanted to know the content and advertisement for the channel.
- Ms. Battle wanted to know how long it will be to have the news channel. Mr. Jones stated that it would be in next year in 2013. He stated that the channel will be just for news.
- Mr. Jones stated that if we decide to broadcast the meetings we will need to hire a contractor.
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4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 4.1. Annual Seat Pleasant Day, Saturday, May 5, 2012, Parade 10:00am, Goodwin Park Activities 12:00pm**
- 4.2. Regular Work Session, Monday May 7, 2012, Council Chambers at 6:00p.m.**
- 4.3. Public Session, Monday, May 14, 2012, Council Chambers at 7:00p.m.**
- 4.4. City Council Budget Review, Saturday, May 12, 2012, Council Chamber at 9:00am -5:00p.m.**

5. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34p.m.

Submitted by,



Dashaun N. Lanham
City Clerk